

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A broadcast retransmitter for use with a wireless local
2 area network (WLAN), comprising:

3 a gateway configured to format a bitstream received from a
4 broadcast receiver for:

5 delivery to a wireless access point (WAP) of said WLAN;

6 and

7 subsequent conversion by said WAP into a wireless
8 transmission over said WLAN to make said bitstream available
9 for reception by a client of said WLAN.

2. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 wherein said
2 broadcast receiver is a satellite receiver.

3. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 wherein said
2 broadcast receiver is a terrestrial receiver.

4. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 wherein said gateway formats said bitstream according to a format selected from the group consisting of:

Ethernet,
IEEE 1394,
USB, and
PCI.

5. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 wherein said WLAN conforms to an IEEE 802.11 standard.

6. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 wherein said bitstream includes a plurality of channels and a channel is subsequently selected therefrom.

7. The retransmitter as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a channel selector interposing said broadcast receiver and said gateway, said bitstream including a selected channel.

8. A method of retransmitting a broadcast over a wireless
2 local area network (WLAN), comprising:

3 formatting a bitstream received from a broadcast receiver
4 and containing said broadcast;

5 delivering said bitstream to a wireless access point of said
6 WLAN; and

7 converting said bitstream into a wireless transmission over
8 said WLAN to make said bitstream available for reception by a
9 client of said WLAN.

9. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said broadcast
2 receiver is a satellite receiver.

10. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said broadcast
2 receiver is a terrestrial receiver.

11. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said gateway
2 formats said bitstream according to a format selected from the
3 group consisting of:

4 Ethernet,

5 IEEE 1394,

6 USB, and

7 PCI.

12. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said WLAN
2 conforms to an IEEE 802.11 standard.

13. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said bitstream
2 includes a plurality of channels and a channel is subsequently
3 selected therefrom.

14. The method as recited in Claim 8 further comprising a
2 channel selector interposing said broadcast receiver and said
3 gateway, said bitstream including a selected channel.

15. A broadcast retransmission system, comprising:

2 a broadcast receiver that receives a broadcast and generates
3 a bitstream containing said broadcast;

4 a gateway, coupled to said broadcast receiver, that
5 generates a formatted bitstream for retransmission;

6 a wireless access point, coupled to said gateway, that
7 receives and converts said formatted bitstream into a wireless
8 transmission over a wireless local area network (WLAN) to make
9 said bitstream available for reception by a client of said WLAN.

16. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said broadcast
2 receiver is a satellite receiver.

17. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said broadcast
2 receiver is a terrestrial receiver.

18. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said gateway
2 formats said bitstream according to a format selected from the
3 group consisting of:

4 Ethernet,

5 IEEE 1394,

6 USB, and

7 PCI.

19. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said WLAN
2 conforms to an IEEE 802.11 standard.

20. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said bitstream
2 includes a plurality of channels and a channel is subsequently
3 selected therefrom.

21. The system as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
2 channel selector interposing said broadcast receiver and said
3 gateway, said bitstream including a selected channel.